



Consultation, IA <consultation@bia.gov>

Proposed Rule Change Comment #1076-AF18

Mary Blount <apalachicolaband@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 18, 2014 at 11:11 PM

To: consultation@bia.gov

The Apalachicola Band of Creek Indians is a Federally Recognized Tribe with two ratified treaties, 1823 and 1832.

We are petitioners for federal restoration of our sovereignty under current regulations. Our Tribal identity was lost when removed to Texas in 1834. The Office of Indian Affairs incorrectly assumed the few members that survived were taken into the Alabama and Coushatta Tribes of Texas. That assumption was incorrect.

Given our experience to date, we respectfully request consideration be given to establishing a separate process for petitioners for restoration of tribal sovereignty. Completing the full petition process is expensive and fails to address the single issue to be determined.

The only issue is for resolution is: "Can the petitioner prove inheritance rights to the Treaty they claim conveys federal status to the tribe?" The process should be the same or similar to that in which any US Citizen must establish his or her legal rights to inherit something from a lineal ancestor.

Respectfully,

Mary Sixwomen Blount, Tribal Administrator
Apalachicola Band of Creek Indians
113 N First St. Mabank, TX 75147